REMARKS

The Examiner has objected to the specification as not providing proper antecedent basis for the terms "announcement", "announced", and "unannounces" pertain to. Specifically, the Examiner states it is not understood what is announced, how the register announces the object to the queue and how an object which is announced last unannounces any other object competing for the same resource on the client devices. As explained in the specification and specifically on page 21, lines 10-14; and page 24 lines 13-30, the various objects that are utilized in obtaining and displaying the enhanced content are announced. The objects are announced by listing these objects in the register. The queue then looks to the list in the register to determine which objects are announced. An object can be unannouncing by removing them from the register or otherwise identifying in the register that they are unavailable.

Claims 1-55 remain rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Ullman. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As previously explained to the Examiner in the amendment filed on August 22, 2005, claim 1 claims a computer-readable medium including program code segments for creating a Virtual Stage. A first program code provides an abstraction of a Receiver Object. The Receiver Object configures the client device to receive at least one segment of enhanced content (such as website information). A second program code provides an abstraction of a Show Object. The Show Object configures the client device to present the enhanced content. The enhanced content provider can then provide the enhanced content to the client device where it is received and displayed.

As explained in the background of the invention of the present application, linking enhanced content, such as content from web pages on the internet, with flows of data, such as a television video signal, presents certain problems and has been dealt with in a number of different ways. Technically, one is attempting to provide two different types of data from two different sources and yet co-ordinate their presentation. Furthermore, the enhanced content can be provided in a large variety of different ways in a similarly large number of different formats. This increases the technical difficulty of providing a client device that can be able to receive arbitrary enhanced content.

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The combination of the Receiver Object and Show Object as claimed allows for the creation of a "Virtual Stage" or platform. The Receiver Object of the Virtual Stage allows the client device to automatically be configured to receive content from a variety of sources in a variety of formats and the Show Object allows this received content to be shown.

Accordingly, the claimed program code segments automatically configure a client device to receive and display enhanced content without forcing a user to manually install various software packages or to manually log into content provider services. Furthermore, by automatically configuring the client device, the claimed invention allows content providers to supply a single type of content without being concerned that users will not be able to access it. Consequently, the user does not have to search for content that it is in a format compatible with the specific software installed on the client device.

In response to applicants' explanation of the differences between Ullman and the claimed invention the Examiner states "Although Ullman fails to explicitly recite the terms receiver object and show object, Ullman teaches an abstract portion of a browser which configures the client device to receive enhanced content and an abstracted portion of a browser which presents the enhanced content. (Figure 8, column 11, lines 2-24).

The cited portion of Ullman describes a common Browser application. As explained on page 6, line 22—page 7, line 3; and page 7, line 30—page 8, line 3, the Receiver and Show Objects are separate from the browser and allow enhanced content to be received without the whole browser or a specific application software application being concerned with when and how the enhanced content are received. The cited portions of Ullman fail to disclose or suggest the claimed sperate Receiver or Show Objects or indeed any separate objects all. Accordingly, the rejections in view of Ullman should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing Attorney Docket No. 559442001300.

Dated: January 25, 2006
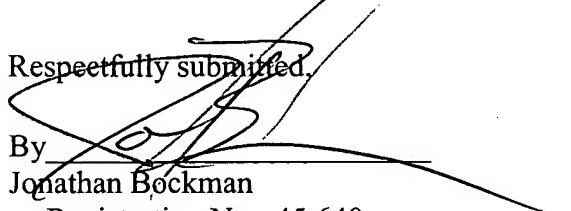
Respectfully submitted,

By
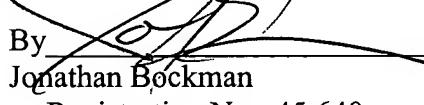
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